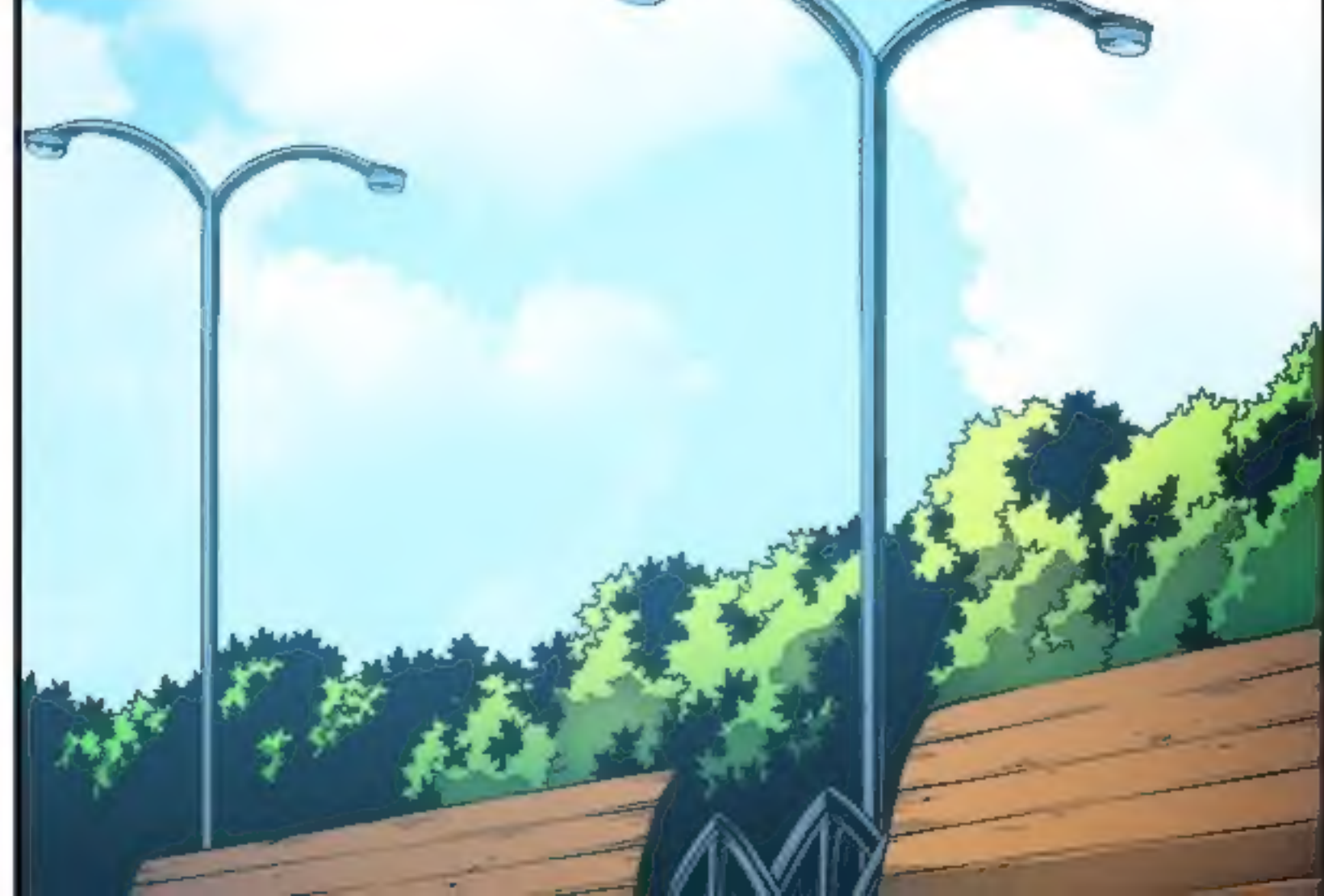



Solo Leveling

Art · DUBU (REDICE STUDIO)
Original Novel · Chugong
Story · h-goon


26





WHY DO YOU WANT
TO WORK OUT WITH
ME ALL OF A
SUDDEN?

A close-up of a hand holding a sneaker. The shoe is white with orange and black accents. The background is a solid blue color.



WELL, I FEEL LIKE
YOU'RE GETTING A
LITTLE FULL OF
YOURSELF.

A man and a woman are standing on a paved path in a park. The man is on the left, wearing a purple long-sleeved shirt and black pants. He is gesturing with his hands. The woman is on the right, wearing a pink hoodie and white shorts. She is also gesturing with her hands. The background shows trees and a path.

PLUS, IT'S NOT
GOOD TO SIT AT
A DESK ALL
DAY.

I'M NOT GOING
TO WAIT FOR YOU
IF YOU CAN'T
KEEP UP.





WE'RE
CONSTRUCTING
THIS BUILDING TO USE
AS THE GUILD'S
OFFICE.

THE ESTIMATED
VALUE IS ABOUT
30 BILLION WON, BUT
IT'LL PROBABLY BE
MORE THAN
THAT.

A BUILDING
WORTH 30 BILLION
WON FOR GOING ON
19 C-RANK RAIDS...

SO YOU'RE SAYING
IT'S A SMALL PRICE
TO PAY, AS LONG AS
YOU CAN BECOME A
GUILD MASTER?

THAT'S
CORRECT,
SIR.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?


30 BILLION.

NORMALLY,
I WOULDN'T HAVE
ANY REASON TO
REFUSE, BUT...

...I'M A SPECIAL CASE.

I'M AWARE.


I'M A SPECIAL



CASE EVEN AMONG
THOSE THAT HAVE
REAWAKENED.

SINCE A
HUNTER THAT'S
ABLE TO BECOME
MORE POWERFUL
IS PRETTY MUCH
UNHEARD OF.

IF I
CONTINUE TO LEVEL
UP AT THIS RATE, I'LL
SOON BE AN S-RANK.
NO, MAYBE I COULD
GO EVEN HIGHER
THAN THAT.




IF THAT HAPPENS,
30 BILLION WON
WOULD BE
NOTHING.

BUT...

I HAVE ONE
CONDITION.

ANYTHING, SIR!

***YOU
AND ME.***



ONLY THE TWO
OF US WILL GO
ON THESE
RAIDS.

S...SIR.

IF I'M UNDERSTANDING
YOU CORRECTLY... JUST
THE TWO OF US WILL
CLEAR THE C-RANK
DUNGEONS?

IS THAT WHAT
YOU'RE SAYING?

YOU
UNDERSTOOD
PERFECTLY.

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

B, BUT WE NEED AT
LEAST 10 MEMBERS TO
ENTER THE C-RANK
GATES...

TREMBLE

TREMBLE ~...~

PEOPLE
WOULD LINE UP IF WE
TOLD THEM WE'D PAY
THEM FOR THIS

THEM FOR JUST
BEING THERE.

WE'D BE USING
THE SAME METHOD
HWANG DONGSUK
USED.

S, STILL,
WOULDN'T THAT BE
TOO DANGEROUS,
SIR?

YOU CAN'T SEE
BEYOND YOUR
OWN NOSE.

SIGH

TO PUT THINGS
IN A DIFFERENT
PERSPECTIVE, NO ONE
WILL GET HURT AS
LONG AS WE'RE
OKAY.

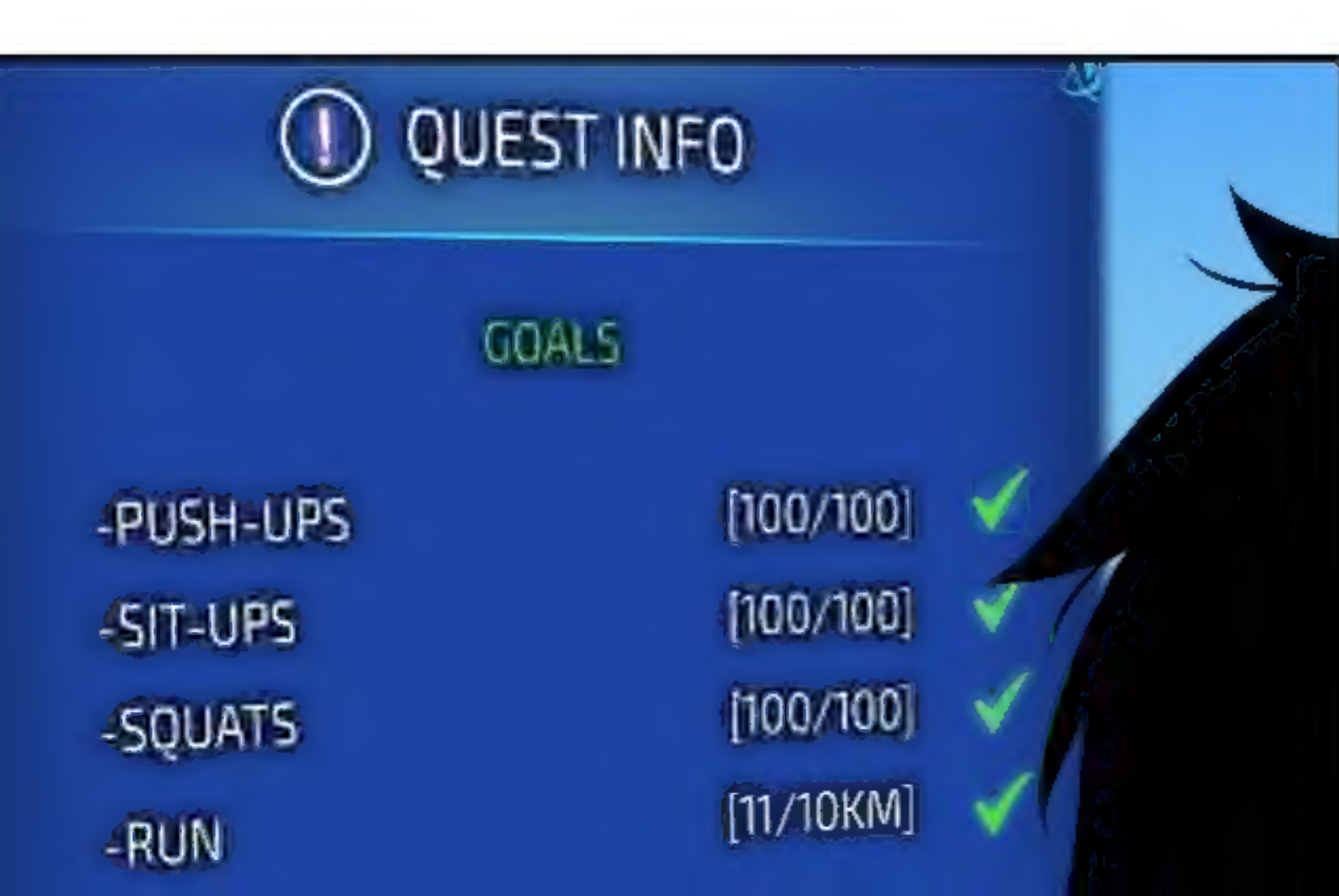
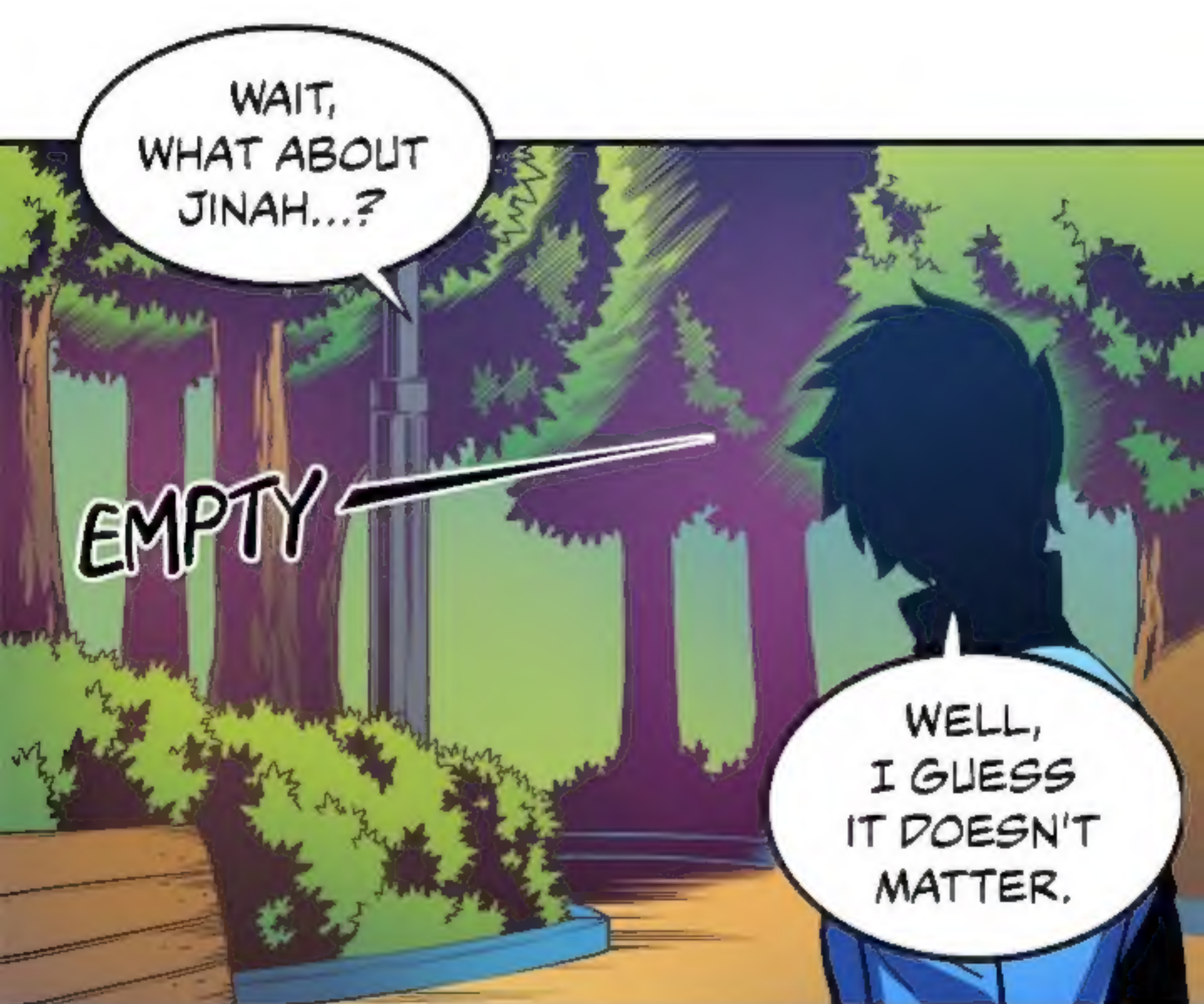
THINK
ABOUT IT. WHEN
WE SUCCESSFULLY
COMPLETE THOSE 19
RAIDS AFTER FORMING
THE SQUAD...

WE'LL
BE KNOWN AS THE
STRIKE SQUAD THAT
CLEARED 19 WHOLE
RAIDS WITH NO
ACCIDENTS.

WOULDN'T IT
HELP CONVINCE YOUR
FATHER THAT YOU'RE
CAPABLE?

I SEE...!

SOUNDS GOOD, SIR!
I'LL PUT TOGETHER
A TEAM.



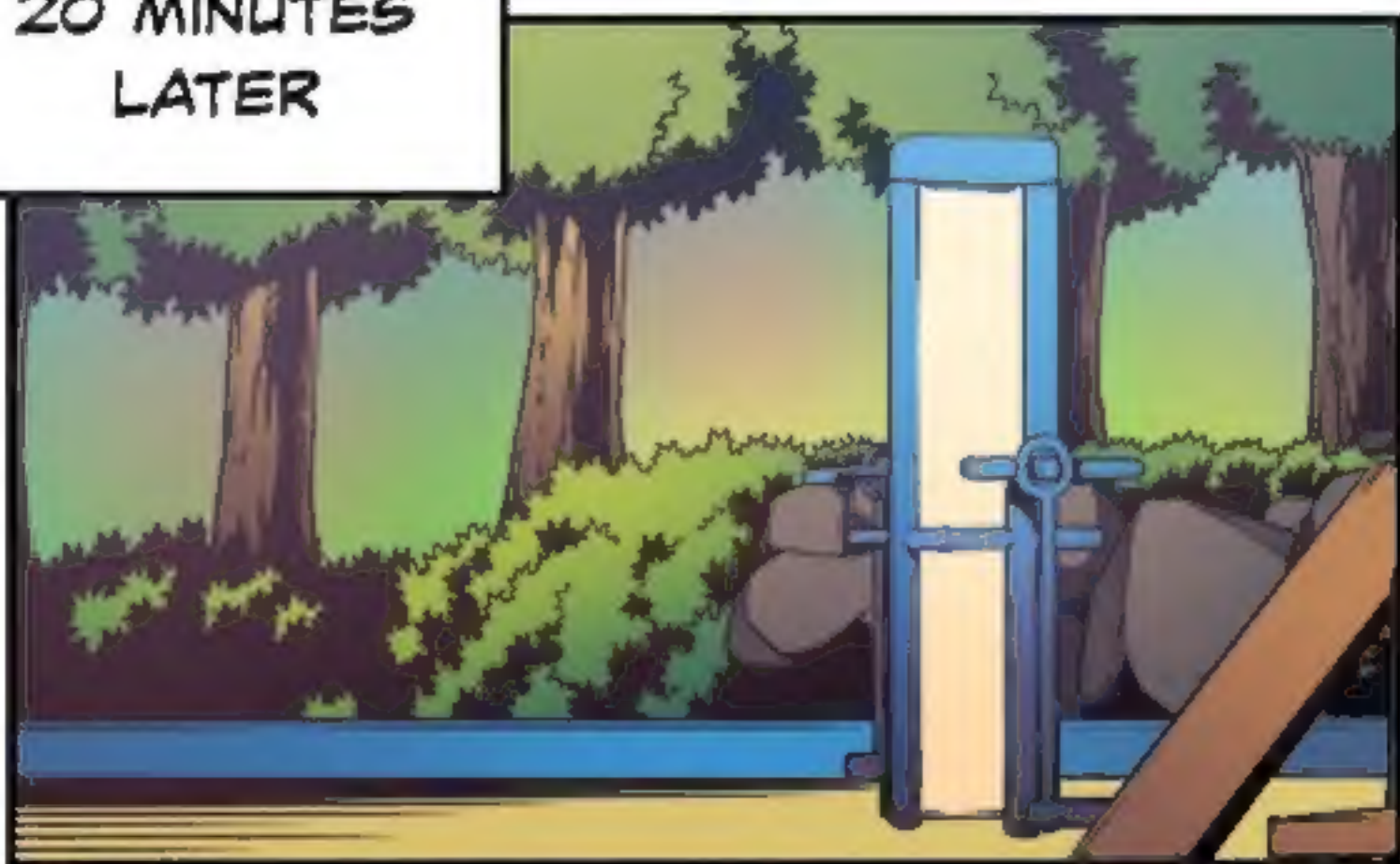
*CAUTION: IF THE DAILY QUEST REMAINS INCOMPLETE, PENALTIES WILL BE APPLIED ACCORDINGLY.

WHY IS IT KEEPING TRACK OF THE EXTRA EXERCISE I'M DOING EVEN THOUGH I'VE ALREADY COMPLETED THE QUEST?

MAYBE I SHOULD TRY PUSHING MYSELF TO THE LIMIT. I STILL FEEL ENERGIZED, AND I HAVE TO WAIT FOR JINAH ANYWAY.

HUP

20 MINUTES LATER



-PUSH-UPS

[200/100] ✓

-SIT-UPS

[200/100] ✓

-SQUATS

[200/100] ✓

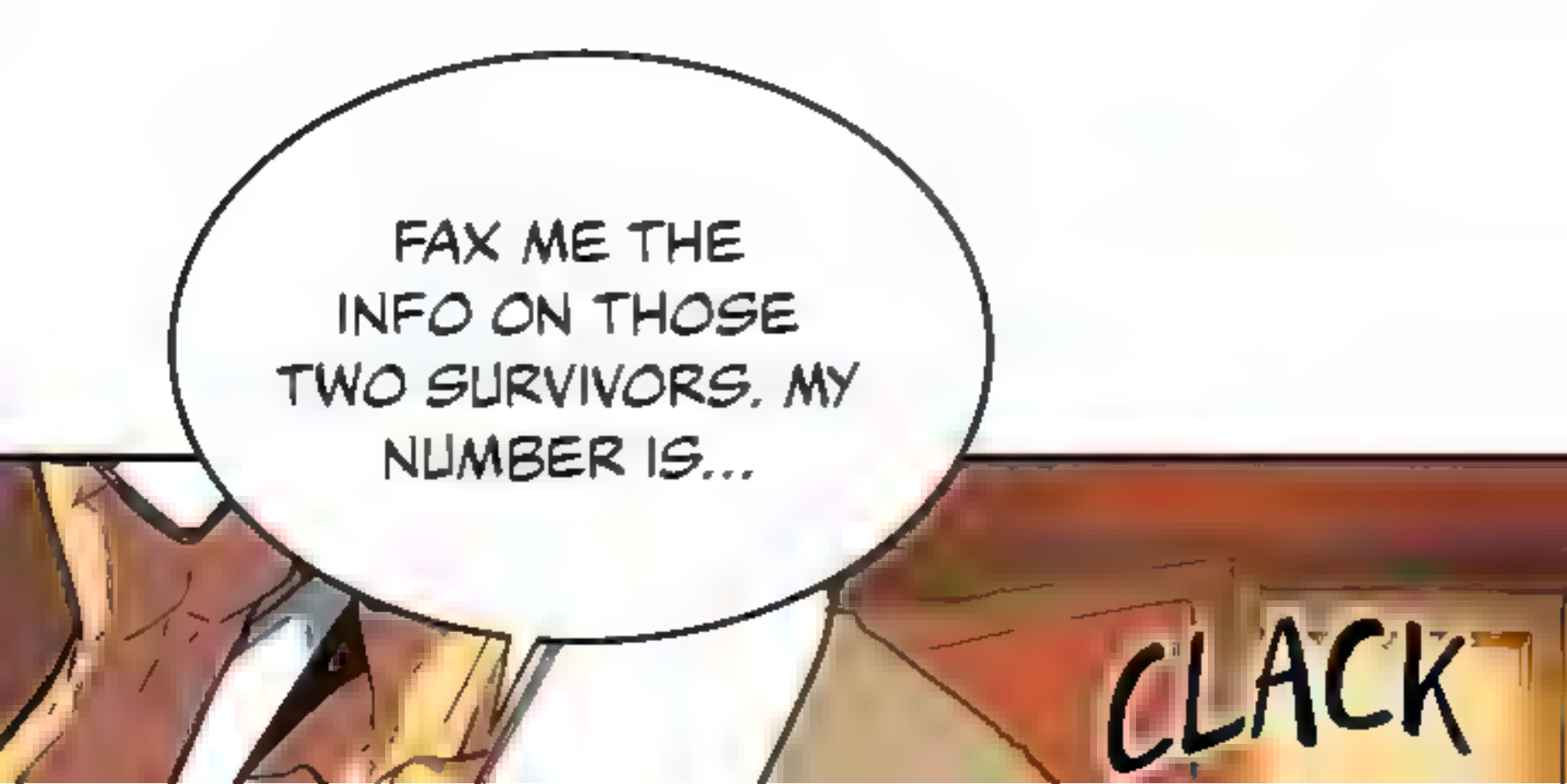
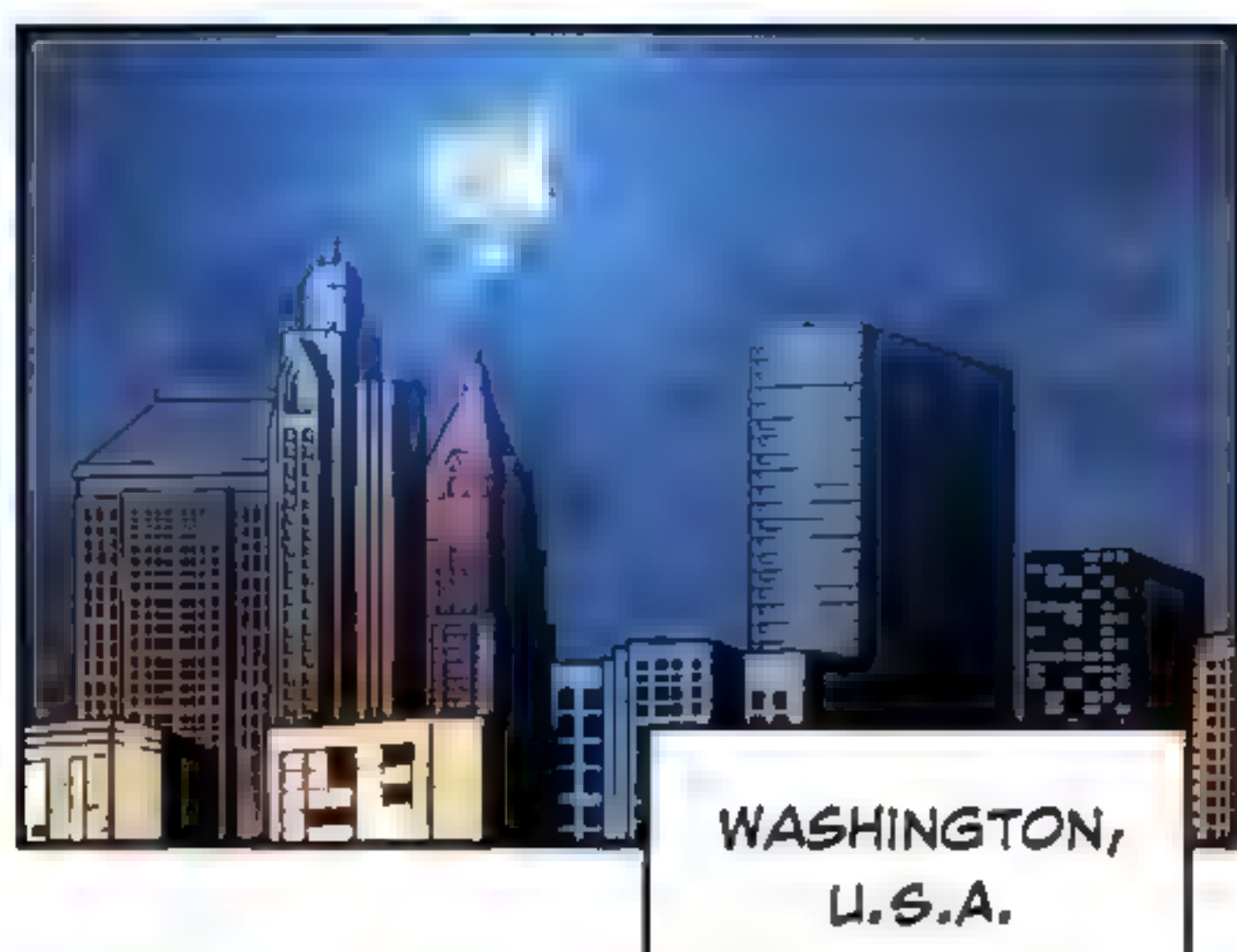
-RUN

[11/10KM] ✓

THE NUMBERS WON'T GO ANY HIGHER THAN 200.

WHEW

IS IT THE SAME FOR RUNNING?







WHAT WOULD
HAPPEN IF I
WERE TO KILL
SOMEONE IN
KOREA?

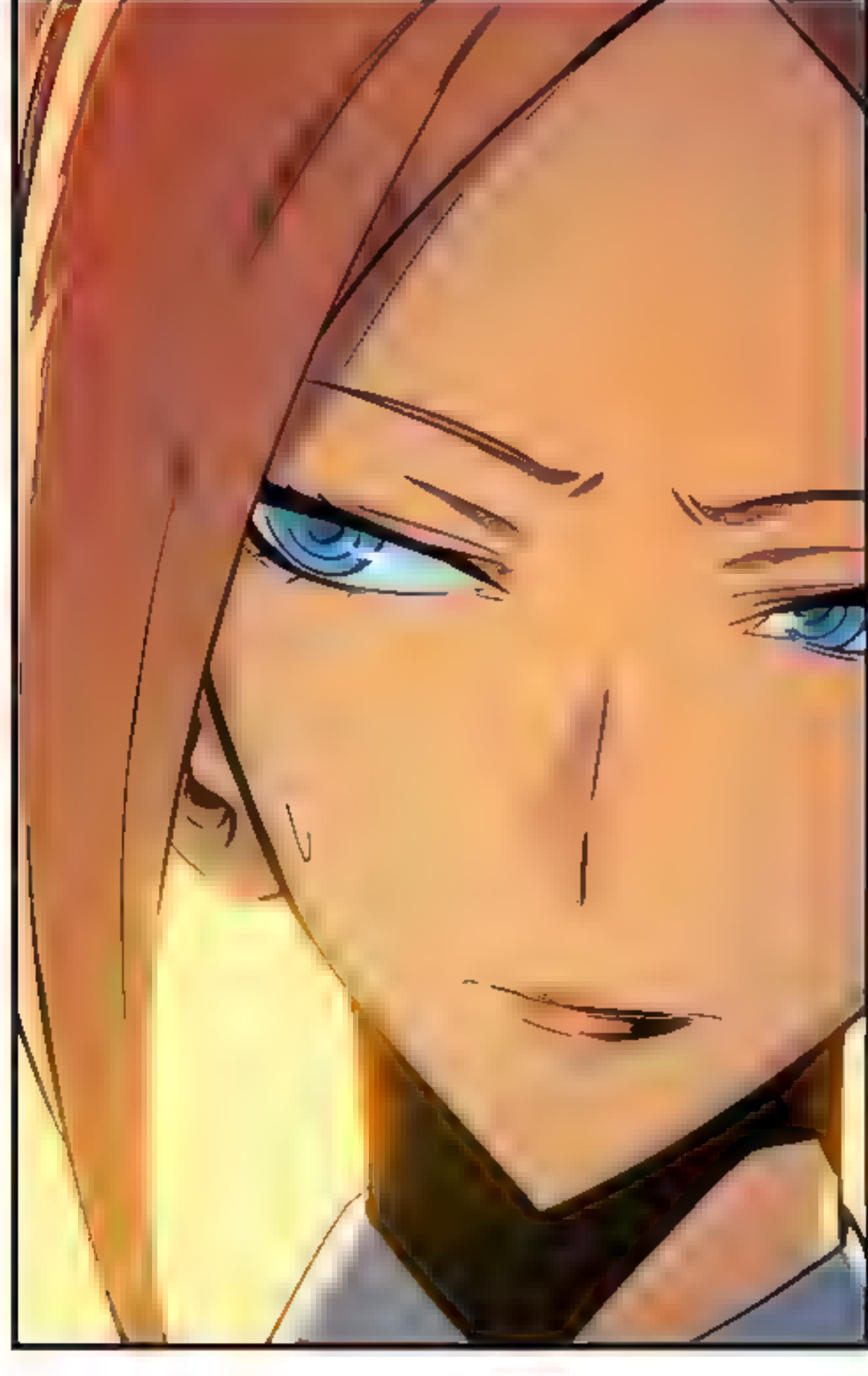
WHIR

WHIR



...

ARE YOU BEING
SERIOUS, SIR?



...THE U.S.
DOESN'T HAVE ANY SET
AGREEMENTS WITH KOREA
ON THE EXTRADITION OF
HUNTERS THAT COMMIT
CRIMES.

SINCE
YOU'RE AN AMERICAN
HUNTER, YOU WOULD STAND
TRIAL IN A U.S. COURT. THE
GOVERNMENT WOULD
PROBABLY NEGOTIATE



TO GIVE YOU A LIGHT SENTENCE.

THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.

WHIR

WHIR




SOME BASTARDS MURDERED MY OLDER BROTHER.

I WON'T REST UNTIL I SEE THE FACES OF THOSE SCUMBAGS...!

CRUSH

S-RANK HUNTER
HWANG DONGSOO
(SCAVENGER GUILD)



...ALL EIGHT MEMBERS OF THE STRIKE SQUAD, INCLUDING MY BROTHER, DIED WHILE THE REMAINING TWO HUNTERS SURVIVED?

THE SURVIVORS WERE A D-RANK AND AN E-RANK.

DONGSUK ISN'T THE TYPE OF PERSON TO GIVE UP HIS LIFE FOR A WEAKER TEAMMATE.

ALSO, THEY WEREN'T EVEN OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE SQUAD. THEY WERE FILLERS.

THOSE BASTARDS MUST'VE SET A TRAP AND KILLED DONGSUK!

THIS IS WHY I ALWAYS TOLD HIM THAT HE CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT ME...

I NEED TO VISIT KOREA. CAN YOU CLEAR MY SCHEDULE?

BUT MR. HWANG, THE GUILD'S ACTIVITIES WILL BE AT A STANDSTILL IF YOU TAKE A SUDDEN LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

WHAT DOES MY SCHEDULE LOOK LIKE?



YOU'RE
COMPLETELY
BOOKED FOR
THE NEXT TWO
MONTHS.



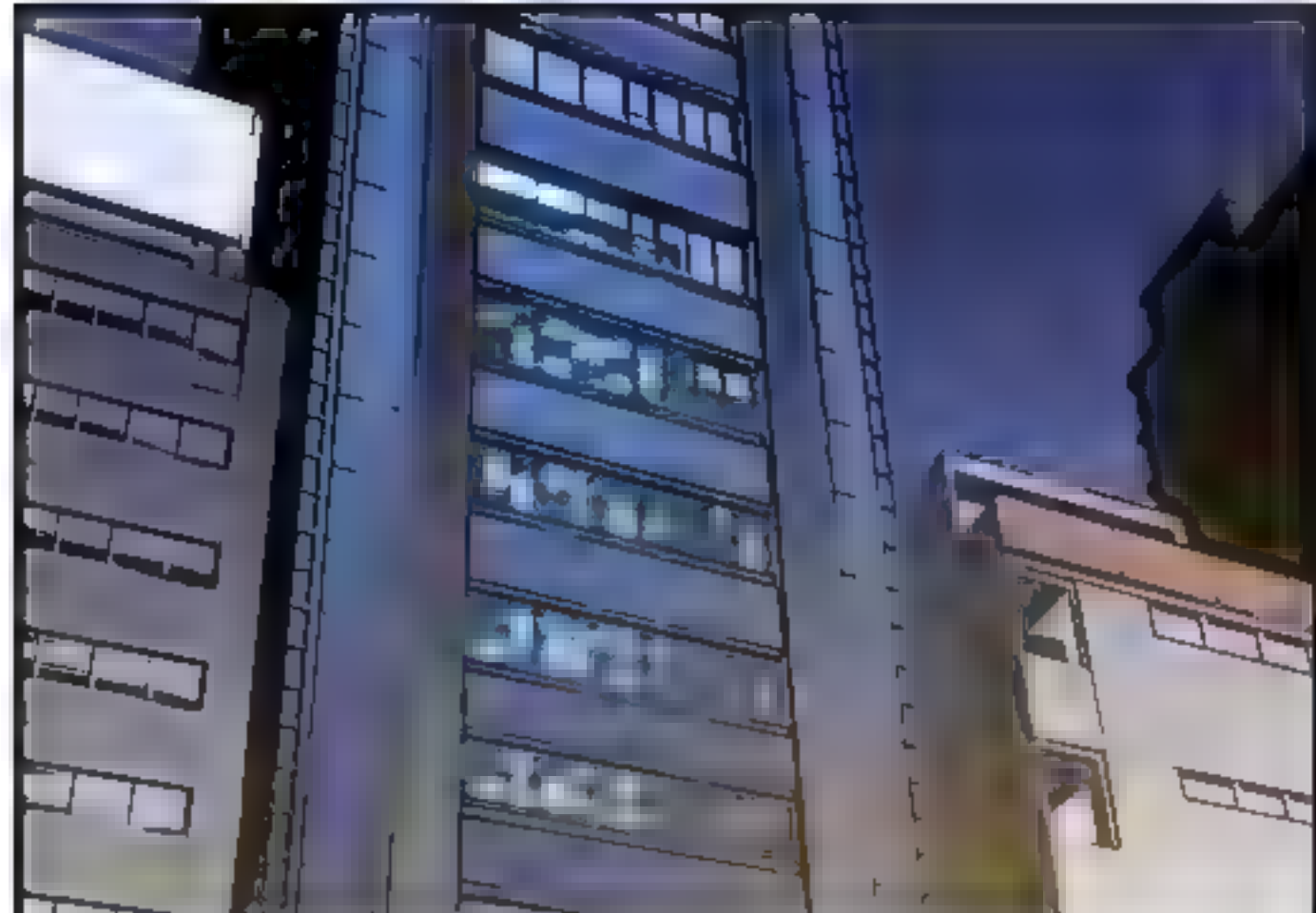
A WHOLE TWO
MONTHS... I WON'T
EVEN HAVE TIME
TO ARRANGE A
FUNERAL.

ALL RIGHT. MAKE
SURE MY SCHEDULE
STAYS FREE AFTER
THAT DATE.




ARE YOU SURE
ABOUT THIS?

MORE
IMPORTANTLY...





NOW THAT I'VE
DONE TWICE AS MUCH
AS WHAT WAS REQUIRED, THE
DAILY QUEST TURNED INTO
A "HIDDEN QUEST."



(ITEM)
LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:
TYPE: KEY

THIS KEY ALLOWS YOU TO ENTER THE
DUNGEON DEMONS CASTLE. THIS ITEM
CAN BE USED AT DAESUNG TOWER IN
THE SONGPA DISTRICT

I KIND OF KNEW I'D
GET A BETTER REWARD
THIS TIME, BUT I CAN'T
BELIEVE I GOT AN
S-RANK ITEM.

I WONDER IF HIDDEN
QUESTS ARE ONLY GIVEN
WHEN I'VE EXCEEDED
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE DAILY QUEST.

SELECT A REWARD.
CHOOSE A REWARD FROM
BELOW.

REWARD 1: STATUS RECOVERY

REWARD 2: ABILITY POINTS +3

REWARD 3: RANDOM BLESSED LOOT BOX
(SELECT)

REWARD 3: RANDOM CURSED LOOT BOX
(SELECT)

ACCEPT ALL YOUR REWARDS?

ACCEPT DECLINE

THIS COULD
BE A ONE-TIME
THING.

I CHOSE A "RANDOM
BLESSED LOOT BOX,"
SO I PROBABLY WON'T
BE ABLE TO GET THE
"RANDOM CURSED
LOOT BOX."

ANYWAY, I GOT
A DUNGEON KEY,
SO I SHOULD
ENTER.








IF THE KEY'S
LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY
IS THE SAME AS THE
DUNGEON RANK, THAT
WOULD MEAN...

FWOOSH



...THIS
IS AN S-RANK
DUNGEON!


I HAVE
NO CHANCE OF
SURVIVING THIS!

IT'S NOT A GIVEN THAT
THE DUNGEON'S RANK
WILL MATCH THE ITEM'S
LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY, OR
HOW HARD IT WAS TO
OBTAIN THE ITEM.

BUT IT SURE
DOES SEEM TO
BE THAT WAY...

SINCE THE E-RANK
KEY LED TO AN EASY
DUNGEON THAT FELT
LIKE IT WAS E-RANK.

WHAT IF THE ITEM'S
LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY IS
ACTUALLY EQUIVALENT TO
THE DUNGEON'S LEVEL?



I STILL HAVE
THAT TELEPORTATION
STONE I OBTAINED FROM
THE INSTANCE DUNGEON,
SO I'LL USE IT AS SOON
AS THINGS GET TOO
DANGEROUS.

THE ONLY THING
I CAN DO IN THIS
SITUATION IS TO
GIVE IT MY ALL.

JINHO AND
I HAVE TO CLEAR
C-RANK DUNGEONS BY
OURSELVES FROM
NOW ON.



IN ORDER TO
DO THAT, I NEED TO
KNOW EXACTLY HOW
STRONG I AM.



IF I GIVE UP JUST BECAUSE
I'M SCARED, I WON'T BECOME
ANY STRONGER.

[THE GATEKEEPER OF HELL, CERBERUS]





I'M GOING TO BECOME
EVEN MORE POWERFUL...



I CAN'T
LET MYSELF DIE
HERE.

...AND LEVEL UP!

To Be Continued...

Solo Leveling

D&C
WEBTOON

Translator: Joelle

Editor: Michelle Kim